



April 29, 2005

Woonsocket pair sentenced for trafficking in crack cocaine

A federal judge today sentenced **Thomas Gaffney**, of Woonsocket, to 200 months in federal prison for trafficking in crack cocaine. Gaffney and codefendant **James D. Barr** pleaded guilty in January to federal drug-trafficking charges, admitting that they sold a total of 14 grams of crack cocaine. Barr was sentenced on April 1 to 120 months in prison.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentences, which U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith imposed in U.S. District Court, Providence.

At the plea hearing in January, Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen G. Dambruch said the government could prove that, on September 28 and October 7, **Woonsocket Police** detectives and agents for the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)** observed Gaffney and Bar meet an individual on Robinson Street in Woonsocket and sell that individual two "eight balls" – approximately 1/4 ounce – of crack cocaine. The total weight of the crack cocaine was approximately 14 grams.

Woonsocket Police and ATF agents arrested Gaffney and Barr early in the morning of October 8, a few hours after the October 7 transaction. Barr, 24, of 640 Social Street, 3d Floor, Woonsocket, and Gaffney, 25, of 433 Front Street, 2d Floor, have been detained since they were arrested.

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Gaffney and Barr pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute cocaine base – crack cocaine – and two counts of distributing cocaine base.

Woonsocket Police and **ATF** investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Dambruch prosecuted it.

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